Extcntion of N.H. 5 between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada

3460. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway No. 5 between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada is being extended;

(b) if so, the central assistance made available in this regard; and

(c) the target date for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (c) Details of the two projects involving widening to four-lenes of Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam Section of NH 5 in Andhra Pradesh, which are under implementation of Central Government, are given below:

(i) Four-laning of Anakapally-Visakhapatnam (km. 358/0 to km 395/ 875) Section of Vijaywada-Visakhapatnam Section, including four-laning of km 0 to km 2/837 Section of Vis-akhapatnam-Bhubaneswar Section and strengthening of Ankapally bypass-Estimated cost is Rs. 118 crores. The project is targetted for completion by June, 1997.

(ii) Four-laning of km. 3.4 to km. 13 of Vijaywada-Visakhapatnam Section, including strengthening of km. 13 to km. 53.80 and km. 69.2 to km. 75 and construction of a bypass to Eluru town between km 53.80 to km 69.2—Estimated cost is Rs. 135.4 crores. Award of contract is under litigation. It is too early to indicate the target date of completion.

Calculation of Gratuity under Gratuity Act 1972 of Port Trust Employees

3461. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court delivered any judgement during August, 1984 regarding calculation of amount of gratuity payable under the Gratuity Act, 1972 of Port Trust Employees;

(b) if so, the date of effect of above judgement taken by Calcutta Port Trust and Madras Port Trust;

(c) whether all the employees of Calcutta Port Trust have been informed and given the benefit of above order, especially to retired persons; and

(d) if not, the action Government propose to take to inform all the effected retired employees regarding outcome of the order?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1st July 1980 in respect of Madras Port Trust and January 1986 in respect of Calcutta Port Trust.

(c) and (d) Changes in the mode of Calculation of payment of gratuity are automatically effected by the Calcutta Port Trust in respect of all the employees including retired employees to which the changes are applicable. These changes are not communicated to each individual employees separately.

Road Development Project through Privatisation in Maharashtra

3462. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received for approval any Road Development Projects to be completed through privatisation from Maharashtra Government;